Departments/Institutes are supporting various research programmes for improvement and cultivation of ornamentals and aromatic plants in the country including Tamil Nadu. The Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), Lucknow—a constituent laboratory of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has its Field Station at Kodaikanal, Tamil Nadu for conducting research on medicinal and aromatic plants including Jasmine. As of now, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has no proposal to set up a research centre in Tamil Nadu.

Science and Technology infrastructure in Universities

4062. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY he pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have launched funds for improvement of science and technology infrastructure in Universities and higher educational institutions/programmes;

(b) it so. the details thereof;

(e) whether such facility has been extended to universities in Tamil Nadu:

(d) if so, the details thereof: and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?'

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT) : (a) to (e) Department of Science & Technology has launched the Scheme "Fund for Improvement of S &. T Infrastructure (FIST) in Universities and Higher educational institutions" during the year 2000-2001. The scheme aims at providing basic infrastructure and enabling facilities and environment for strengthening teaching and research and attracting fresh talent. More than 200 Departments in Universities/Colleges and Higher educational institutions have been identified for support: This include 26 departments in 13 universities/colleges and related academic institutions in the State of Tamil Nadu.

Technology parks for women

4063. SHRI K.M. KHAN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :